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| APPLICATION NO.  | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|--|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/025,237   | 12/19/2001  | Andrew Paul Chapple  | C7592(V)            | 7388             |
| 201  | 7590        | 01/25/2005           | EXAMINER            |                  |
| UNILEVER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY GROUP<br>700 SYLVAN AVENUE,<br>BLDG C2 SOUTH<br>ENGLEWOOD CLIFFS, NJ 07632-3100 |             |                      | KUMAR, PREETI       |                  |
|  |             | ART UNIT             |                     | PAPER NUMBER     |
|  |             | 1751                 |                     |                  |

DATE MAILED: 01/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
|                              | 10/025,237             | CHAPPLE ET AL.      |
| Examiner                     | Art Unit               |                     |
| Preeti Kumar                 | 1751                   |                     |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### **Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
  - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
  - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 October 2004.  
2a)  This action is **FINAL**.                  2b)  This action is non-final.  
3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## **Disposition of Claims**

- 4)  Claim(s) 1,2 and 4-16 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) 1-2, 4-16 is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## **Application Papers**

- 9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a)  All b)  Some \* c)  None of:  
1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_

4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.  
5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Final Rejection after RCE***

1. Claims 1-2, 4-16 are pending. Claim 1 is amended.
2. The rejection of claims 1-2 and 4-16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hauwermeiren et al. (WO 98/06811) is maintained for the reasons recited in the previous office action and explained below.

***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicants arguments filed October 29, 2004 have been fully considered but not found to be persuasive.

Applicants urge that Hauwermeiren et al. teach individual and separate additives and does not teach an antibody granule wherein the antibody is granulated with an alkali metal salt in the amount recited by the instant claims. Contrary to applicant's arguments, the prior art teaches a granular composition comprising an antibody and more than 80% alkali metal salt. See example 7 formulation 4. As to the process step of granulation, the prior art is silent as to the specific step of granulation however, the formulation taught by Hauwermeiren et al. is granular by nature of the components.

Also, Applicants urge that patentable weight be given to the granulation of the antibody with only the alkali metal salt. However, "consisting essentially of" language has been construed as equivalent to 'comprising'. See PPG. 156 F.3d at 1355, 48 USPQ2d at 1355 and MPEP 2111.03.

Applicants agree that the prior art teaches a granular composition comprising an antibody and an alkali metal salt. See remarks filed 10/29/2004 page 5, line 5. The

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prior art teaching of mixing together antibody and alkali metal salt to make a granular composition establishes a prima facie case of obviousness to one of ordinary skill in the art to mix, combine, or granulate the antibody and alkali metal salt and other granular detergent components and thus, encompasses the material limitations of the instant claims. Applicants have provided no arguments explaining how the mixing taught in the prior art is different from the granulation recited by the instant claims.

***Conclusion***

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Preeti Kumar whose telephone number is 571-272-1320. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Yogendra N. Gupta can be reached on 571-272-1316. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

PK

*Margaret Einsmann*  
Preeti Kumar  
Examiner  
Art Unit 1751

**MARGARET EINSMANN**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
**GROUP 1100**